

Bahraini Reds show resilience, skill despite loss to Korea

TDT | Manama

In yesterday's match at the Asian Volleyball Championship, the Bahraini Reds fell to the Korean team with a decisive score of 3-0. The set results were 25-15, 25-16, and 25-21.

The Bahraini national team will now compete against China in the match for seventh and eighth places. Meanwhile, the Korean team is set to face Thailand today for the fifth and sixth-place decider.

Despite their loss, the Bahraini Reds showcased their trademark fighting spirit and enthusiasm. However, the Korean team dominated with strong blocking and offensive strategies. Bahraini player Jassim Madan stood out, scoring 15 points despite the de-



feat.

Team's physical trainer, Mohamed Youssef, noted that the players displayed strong technical skills during the match and gained valuable experience competing at a high level in Asia.

He highlighted that the Korean team's fast-paced play and robust rear defense were key factors, linking their success to their defensive strategies. Despite the loss, Ashouri emphasized that reaching the top eight



in the tournament was a significant achievement, especially after advancing from Group 1 as the second seed behind Thailand.

Looking ahead to match against Chinese Taipei, Ashouri

expressed optimism. Adhering to Coach Fouad Abdel Wahed's instructions, the team aims to minimize errors and capitalize on the opponent's weaknesses.

Lebanon secures first victory

against Saudi Arabia

The Lebanese national volleyball team achieved their first win of the championship by defeating Saudi Arabia in straight sets: 25-14, 26-24, 25-16, and 25-19.

This marks Lebanon's inaugural victory in their debut Asian Championship.

Lebanon will now compete for the 13th and 14th places, facing Hong Kong today. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia will take on Kuwait in their battle for the last and second-to-last spots. In their previous encounter, Kuwait defeated Saudi Arabia 3-0 in the Asian Championship.

Lebanese player Serge Chehab was a standout performer, scoring 21 points, surpassing Saudi Arabia's Azzam Al-Subaie, who scored 16 points.

Bastianini wins British MotoGP sprint as Bagnaia crashes out

AFP | Silverstone, United Kingdom

Ducati rider Enea Bastianini won the British MotoGP sprint at Silverstone on Saturday as championship leader Francesco Bagnaia crashed out on lap five.

Bastianini was followed in second by Jorge Martin (Ducati-Pramac), who now stands just one point behind Bagnaia in the overall standings ahead of Sunday's main race.

Pole-sitter Aleix Espargaro (Aprilia) finished third.

Martin was quickly on to Espargaro's tail at the start of the race, overtaking on lap one and appearing to take control.

Bastianini struggled to stay with him for the first couple of laps but slowly reeled him in before sliding past to take the lead which he held until the end



Riders compete in the MotoGP sprint race of the British Grand Prix at Silverstone circuit in Northamptonshire, central England

for his first win of any kind since taking the Malaysian MotoGP last November.

"I am very happy," said Bastianini.

"It was a very good fight with Jorge, we were pushing the limit. The lap time was too crazy, all the sprint has been crazy.

"It's my first victory of the year, I'm so happy at one of my favourite tracks, Silverstone. Fantastic."

Martin's second place gave him nine points and tightens the race at the top of the standings but a win would have put him above Bagnaia.

"Right from the start, I took the lead but Enea was much stronger today," he said after the race.

Six-time world champion Marc Marquez, who went into the sprint third in the title race, was running a comfortable fourth when he crashed on the penultimate lap -- only the second time he has failed to score points in a sprint this season.

He subsequently dropped t o

fourth in the title race behind Bas-

tianini who goes up to third.

An eventful start saw Franco Morbidelli rear-ending Marco Bezzecchi's Ducati, both Italians sliding off the track, debris cascading from their bikes.

All three will be ready to go again in Sunday's MotoGP for which Espargaro, Bagnaia and Bastianini will start on the front row with Martin just behind them.

Espargaro surprised Bagnaia with a brilliant late lap in qualifying earlier on Saturday to snatch pole position.

Ducati Lenovo Team's Italian rider Enea Bastianini



The Silverstone Circuit, which hosts the British Grand Prix, is renowned for its historic and challenging layout. It was originally a World War II bomber airfield, and its layout is one of the fastest and most demanding on the MotoGP calendar.

McClenaghan wins historic Olympic pommel horse gold for Ireland

AFP | Paris, France

Rhys McClenaghan won pommel horse gold at the Paris Games on Saturday for Ireland's first ever Olympic gymnastics medal.

The double world champion made history for his country by edging out Kazakh Nariman Kurbanov by 0.100 points, with Stephen Nedoroscik of the United States in bronze.

Britain's most decorated gymnast Max Whitlock was deprived a perfect send-off to his decorated Olympic career, finishing fourth. Whitlock



(From L) Silver medallist Kazakhstan's Nariman Kurbanov, gold medallist Ireland's Rhys McClenaghan and bronze medallist US' Stephen Nedoroscik celebrate during the podium ceremony for the artistic gymnastics men's pommel horse final during the Paris 2024 Olympic Games at the Bercy Arena in Paris

was seeking an unprecedented fourth medal on the same apparatus after golds at the last two Games in Tokyo and Rio, and bronze at London 2012. He was sitting third until Nedoroscik did enough to take his place on the podium.

McClenaghan crumpled with emotion after his faultless 60-second performance crammed with Russian circles, scissors and handstands, finishing off with a foot-perfect dismount. The 25-year-old from Northern Ireland went into the final as favourite after heading qualifying.

Bahrain Volleyball Association earns top honours for hosting Asian Under-18 Championship



Officials during a press conference

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The Bahrain Volleyball Association has achieved significant recognition for its organizational excellence by successfully hosting the Asian Under-18 Volleyball Championship. This marks a major accomplishment for the association, earning them a Certificate of Excellence in Organization.

The championship, held at the Isa Bin Rashid Sports Halls Complex, was lauded for its exceptional execution. During a press conference at the union headquarters, Mr. Firas Al-Halwaji, Chairman

of the Executive Committee, presented the final report and evaluation of the tournament. The event received high praise from Yermek Serlibaev, President of the Kazakh Arbitration Committee, who commended Bahrain's organizational capabilities.

Mr. Al-Halwaji highlighted the significant contributions of the Media Committee in promoting the tournament and praised the efforts of all involved working committees. He emphasized that this achievement reflects Bahrain's growing reputation as a premier destination for international volleyball events.

Britain win Olympics rowing thriller as Dutch top table



Great Britain's gold medallists

Vaires-sur-Marne, France

Britain's men's eight confirmed the nation's return as an Olympic rowing superpower by winning the regatta's blue riband event on Saturday but the Netherlands topped the medals table.

The Dutch ended with four

golds, one clear of traditional powerhouse Britain, who came back strongly after failing to win a single event at the Tokyo Games.

The final of the men's eight was a tight battle between two-time reigning world champions Britain and the Netherlands.